

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 76

Recognizing that November 2, 2003, shall be dedicated to “A Tribute to Survivors” at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 28, 2003

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REID, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. SMITH) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing that November 2, 2003, shall be dedicated to “A Tribute to Survivors” at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Whereas, in 1945, American soldiers and other Allied forces, defeated Nazi Germany, ending World War II in Europe and the systematic murder of Europe’s Jews and other targeted groups;

Whereas 6,000,000 Jews were killed during the Holocaust, and after World War II hundreds of thousands of survivors immigrated to the United States, where in spite of their enormous suffering, they rebuilt their lives, and embraced and enriched their adopted homeland;

Whereas, in 1978, President Jimmy Carter created the President’s Commission on the Holocaust to make a rec-

ommendation regarding “the establishment . . . of an appropriate memorial to those who perished in the Holocaust”;

Whereas President Carter said: “Out of our memory . . . of the Holocaust we must forge an unshakable oath with all civilized people that never again will the world stand silent, never again will the world . . . fail to act in time to prevent this terrible crime of genocide. . . . [W]e must harness the outrage of our own memories to stamp out oppression wherever it exists. We must understand that human rights and human dignity are indivisible.”;

Whereas, in 1979, the Commission recommended “a living memorial that will speak not only of the victims’ deaths but of their lives, a memorial that can transform the living by transmitting the legacy of the Holocaust”;

Whereas, in 1980, the United States Congress unanimously passed legislation authorizing the creation of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a “permanent living memorial” on Federal land in the Nation’s Capital;

Whereas, in 1983, Vice President George Bush designated the Federal land on which the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum would be built;

Whereas Vice President Bush said: “Here we will learn that each of us bears responsibility for our actions and our failure to act. Here we will learn that we must intervene when we see evil arise. Here we will learn more about the moral compass by which we navigate our lives and by which countries navigate the future.”;

Whereas, in 1985, Holocaust survivors participated in the groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the future United States Holocaust Memorial Museum;

Whereas, in 1988, President Ronald Reagan dedicated the cornerstone of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum;

Whereas President Reagan said: “We who did not go their way owe them this: We must make sure that their deaths have posthumous meaning. We must make sure that from now until the end of days all humankind stares this evil in the face . . . and only then can we be sure it will never arise again.”;

Whereas, in 1992, replicas of 2 of the milk cans that hid the Oneg Shabbat archive under the Warsaw Ghetto were buried beneath the Museum’s Hall of Remembrance, with a Scroll of Remembrance signed by Holocaust survivors;

Whereas, in 1993, President Bill Clinton opened the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum;

Whereas President Clinton said: “[T]his museum will touch the life of everyone who enters and leave everyone forever changed; a place of deep sadness and a sanctuary of bright hope; an ally of education against ignorance, of humility against arrogance, an investment in a secure future against whatever insanity lurks ahead. If this museum can mobilize morality, then those who have perished will thereby gain a measure of immortality.”;

Whereas, in 2001, President George W. Bush delivered the keynote address at the first Days of Remembrance ceremony after he assumed office.

Whereas President Bush said: “When we remember the Holocaust and to whom it happened, we must also remember where it happened . . . The orders came from men who . . . had all the outward traits of cultured men, except for conscience. Their crimes showed the world that evil

can slip in, and blend in, even amid the most civilized surroundings. In the end, only conscience can stop it. And moral discernment, decency, tolerance—these can never be assumed in any time, or any society. They must always be taught.”;

Whereas the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has had more than 19,000,000 visitors in the first 10 years of its existence;

Whereas, in 2003, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, on the occasion of its 10th Anniversary, wishes to pay tribute to America’s Holocaust survivors, who worked tirelessly to help build the Museum and whose committed support and involvement continue to make the institution such as extraordinary memorial and a vital part of life in the United States; and

Whereas the United States Holocaust Museum has a sacred obligation to preserve and transmit the history and lessons of the Holocaust and, together with the Holocaust survivors, must ensure that the legacy of the survivors is passed on to each new generation: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring)*, That Congress—

3 (1) recognizes that November 2, 2003, shall be
4 dedicated to “A Tribute to Survivors” at the United
5 States Holocaust Memorial Museum and shall be de-
6 voted to honoring our Nation’s Holocaust survivors,
7 as well as their liberators and rescuers, and their
8 families;

1 (2) recognizes that on that day, the United
2 States Holocaust Memorial Museum shall be devoted
3 in its entirety to special programs about and for the
4 survivors of the Holocaust;

5 (3) commends the United States Holocaust Me-
6 morial Museum for its first decade of education
7 dedicated to the memory of the victims of the Holo-
8 caust;

9 (4) endeavors to continue to support the vital
10 work of the United States Holocaust Memorial Mu-
11 seum; and

12 (5) requests that this resolution shall be duly
13 recorded in the official records of the United States
14 Holocaust Memorial Museum.

○